

FIRST SUNDAY OF
LENT



FEBRUARY 21, 2021



ST. JUSTIN-ST. MICHAEL PARISH

{Weekday Masses are held in the Parish Center Chapel unless otherwise noted}

Sunday, February 21, 2021: First Sunday of Lent

- 8:30 AM** For the happy repose of Monsignor Julius Mmegwa
- 10:00 AM** For Saint Lucia's 42nd Independence. That the good Lord will continue to guide and protect the citizens of Saint Lucia both at home and abroad;
Happy birthday to Afiya LaRoche, wishing for God's continued blessings, requested by her mother Gweneth LaRoche
- 4:00 PM** Haitian

Tuesday, February 23, 2021: St. Polycarp

- 12:00 PM** For the happy repose of Monsignor Raphael Madu

Wednesday, February 24, 2021: Weekday

- 12:00 PM** For the happy repose of Monsignor Theophilus Okera

Thursday, February 25, 2021: Weekday

- 12:00 PM** For the happy repose of Father Robert Vargo

Friday, February 26, 2021: Weekday

- 12:00 PM** For the happy repose of John Paul Ezeonyido
- 6:30 PM** Stations of the Cross (Main Church)

Please reserve your spot for Mass using our link for SignUpGenius on our website and on Facebook!

SANCTUARY LAMP

Is Lit for:

The happy repose of all who have died from the Coronavirus in recent weeks.



St. Justin-St. Michael Parish Sunday Collections



February 21, 2021: Snow Removal and Weekly

February 28, 2021: Maintenance and Weekly

ST. JUSTIN-ST. MICHAEL PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Thursday (Office is closed on Friday)
9:00 a.m. — 3:00 p.m.

WHAT'S YOUR OFFERING TO GOD TODAY?

Give unto the Lord the glory due unto His name. Bring an offering and come to His courts (Psalm 96:8):

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the Sacrament of Baptism...that people place their gifts, their resources—their selves—at God's service in and through the Church.

The Malta Food Pantry at

St. Justin — St. Michael Parish

Served **123** families this past weekend!

OFFERING FOR THE WEEK OF

February 7 - 14, 2021

February 16, 2020

\$7,780.00

\$3,651.00

We are grateful for your contribution!

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK



Please pray for the sick of our parish, and especially for: Mamie Gage, Lucille Chambers, Annie Mears, Michael Mierez, Norman Nesbeth, Michael Tutler, Luz Santana, George Jackson, Beverline Goines, Rose Johnson, Peter Alcide, Janet Pivarsky, Aaron Greene, Antoinette Forbes, Salvius Nestor, Muriel McDonald, LaJune Brown, Francisco Rivera, Dalvis Henriques, Concepcion Roman, Ruffin Davis, MaryAnn Carter, Ferdinand Anigbo, Perline Blake, Tio Blanks, Lloyd Francis, Jaya Emmanuel, Maria Francheshini, Tyler James, Mary-Ann George, June Young, Glenice Brooks, Outhone Ford, Sandy Miller, Gernett Goodison, Doloris Harper, Anthony Charles, Bernadette Pierre, Madeliene Nestor, J. Lorraine Tutler, Joey Arango, Verona Tai, Patricia Beckford, Hazel Smalls, Eliza Ferrier, Sylvia Williams, Henry McQuiller, Barbara Kelly and Bertram Morgan

If you would like Fr. Kingsley to visit you, or your loved one in the hospital, at home, or hospice, call (860) 246-6897.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Pastor's Weekly Reflection

The season of Lent is upon us once again. It is a season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. A season when God once again addresses a special appeal to all His children, "Return to me", "Be Reconciled". These sobering words are taken from the Prophet Joel and from Saint Paul in today's first and second readings. In those words, God addresses a call to repentance to all peoples. It is a time to reach out to God in humility, in sack cloth and ashes. The expression 'now' or 'even now' as we see in the Prophet Joel and in the letter of Saint Paul, speak to the urgency of the invitation. It is not too late, yet it cannot be further delayed. It is for all, no one is exempt. Saint Paul calls it an appeal, indeed a relentless one from a God who is rich in compassion, slow to anger abounding in love. At the very core of these appeals is a reminder to not allow the grace of God given to us to be in vain. In other words, we are called to bear fruit, for uselessness attracts disaster. As we begin another forty-day journey, it is important to not see it as an annual routine or ritual or as business as usual. It is a time for deep and personal soul searching, to make peace with God by first making peace with one another. This year we can engage in a targeted fasting, such as fasting from pride, from anger, from greed and from malice. We can also fast from hurtful words, from bitterness and hate, from selfishness and from mean spiritedness. These are worth so much more than the abstinence from material food. As Jesus would remind us in the gospel: "It is not what goes into a man that defiles him, it is indeed what comes out of him" (Matt. 15:11). May we all take advantage of this propitious moment as one of spiritual renewal and rejuvenation, one in which to ensure to mend our broken relationships with God and with one another, Amen.



What's happening at St. Justin-St. Michael Parish

On February 4, Governor Lamont issued a new Executive Order which includes a provision for the "Relaxation of Limits on Religious Gatherings". It provides that "religious, spiritual, or worship gatherings, if held indoors, are limited to no more than 50 percent of the venue's capacity, and such services, if held outdoors, are limited to the number of people that can be accommodated safely by the venue or location, provided that all persons present at any such indoor or outdoor gathering wear masks, unless speaking from designated safe locations, and that a distance of 6 feet is maintained between all persons or groups not from the same household." There are two things to be noted: We are now free to open our churches up to 50% capacity, and the precautionary measures for Mass in the Archdiocese (distancing, masking, sanitizing, no handouts, no congregational singing, etc.) remain in force. Pastors still have to exercise discretion as to what their churches can safely accommodate with regard to the number of people to be admitted.

ST JUSTIN—ST MICHAEL GIVING TREE



St. Justin-St. Michael Parish, Outreach Ministry would like to give a big "Thank You" to the Knights of Peter Claver; The Knights of Columbus, Martha/Mary Guild, Claire Portier and Lew Brown (whose donation was in memory of his brother Clarence Brown) for 6 cases of Backpacks for a total of 160 Backpacks for the homeless; and all the other parishioners who donated Backpacks. We would also like to say "Thank You" to all the parishioners who have donated to the Giving Tree.

The Outreach Ministry at St. Justin-St. Michael will have the Giving Tree remain a permanent fixture in the church as a reminder that we all must continue to help the homeless.

We will continue to ask for donations of: Socks, Hats & Gloves, Washcloths, Deodorant, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes, Hand Sanitizer & Rain Ponchos. Thank you so much for what you continue to do for the least of our brothers and sisters. If you have any questions, you can speak with Cheryl Lawrence.



St. Justin—St. Michael Parish Stations of the Cross, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, February 26: Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 5: Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 12: Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 19: Stations of the Cross

Friday, March 26: Stations of the Cross, 6:00 p.m.

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